

Application No.: 10/814,917  
Docket No.: UC0420 US NA

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## REMARKS

### *Status of the Application*

Claims 1-6, 9 and 13-21 are pending. Claims 1-4, 6, 9, 13-21 stand as rejected. Claim 5 stands as objected to.

### *Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103*

Claims 1-4, 6, 9, 13-21 stand as rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 7,071,289 ("Sotzing"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Sotzing is related to polymers of thieno[3,4-b]thiophene. The polymers are made by aqueous phase polymerization of monomers in the presence of a polyanion and a chemical oxidant (see column 8, lines 60-67) or by electrochemical oxidation (see column 9, lines 62-66). Neither of these results in a conducting polymer doped with a non-polymeric organic acid anion. While Sotzing does disclose both p-dopants and n-dopants for the polymers, there is no teaching or suggestion of forming a conductive polymer doped with a non-polymeric organic acid anion and then adding a colloid-forming fluorinated polymeric sulfonic acid. The Examiner has suggested that it would have been obvious to use a combination of dopants. However, the only mention of dopant mixtures in Sotzing is of a *mineral* acid and an organic acid (see column 7, lines 28-31). Applicants respectfully submit that there are no "expected" additive effects based on the teaching of Sotzing. It is Applicants who have discovered the benefits of the compositions recited in Claim 1.

The Examiner has indicated that Claim 5 is drawn to allowable subject matter as the reference does not fairly teach or suggest the use of polyaniline. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that, with respect to Claim 4, Sotzing also does not teach or suggest the use of polypyrrole.

Applicants' compositions, buffer layers, and devices are not the same as or obvious from the teachings of Sotzing.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

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### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that the above referenced application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance for the pending claims 1-6, 9, and 13-21 is earnestly requested.

Should the Examiner have questions about the application or the contents of this paper, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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